



Roxann Wedegartner
Mayor

City of
GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

City Hall • 14 Court Square • Greenfield, MA 01301
Phone 413-772-1548 ext 3 • Fax 413-772-1309
Cassie.tragert@greenfield-ma.gov • www.greenfield-ma.gov

John Griffin, Chair
Rachel Lindsay, Vice Chair
Erika LaForme
Fletcher Harrington
Travis Drury

Agent: Cassie Tragert

GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, March 9th, 2021
Greenfield Department of Planning and Development
Online Through Zoom
Greenfield MA 01301

The meeting was called to order by John Griffin at 6:30 PM with the following members:

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Griffin
Rachel Lindsay
Erika LaForme
Fletcher Harrington
Travis Drury

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Cassie Tragert (Agent)
Christin McDonough (Alternate Member)
Robert Natario (MassDOT)

Note on Meeting Access in light of COVID-19 State of Emergency:

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Greenfield Conservation Commission will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found below. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the City of Greenfield website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

Should any technical interruption to the meeting occur and the meeting is suddenly ended, it will not be resumed and all items will be automatically continued to the next scheduled meeting date. Contact the Conservation Agent for more information



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6:31 PM Administrative Matters: Approval of Meeting Minutes from 2/23/2021

Changes included removing a note about the minutes not being made available, adding “applicant” to the continued hearing, and changing “exist” to “existing” the ordinance review section.

Motion made by Erika LaForme to approve the minutes for the February 23rd, 2021 meetings as amended.

Motion seconded by Fletcher Harrington.

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

6:36 PM Public Meetings/Hearings

➤ **Public Hearing: Notice of Intent: Slope Stability at Rear Linwood Street associated with Franklin County Fairgrounds; (Map: 33, Lot: 16C) DEP File # Not Yet Obtained.**

Agent Tragert informed the Commission that the applicant has requested further preliminary review by DEP and so is requesting a continuance of the hearing to March 23rd.

➤ **Public Meeting: Request for Determination of Applicability: Determination of Resource Area Boundaries for Future Herbicide Application by MassDOT; (Map, Lot: N/A, Various Locations along I-91)**

Robert Natario of MassDOT presented an overview of the project as well as the present resource area boundaries from the submitted plan. Agent Tragert shared images from the 2/25/2021 site visit and noted that the boundaries seemed appropriate based on her review in the field and of aerial imagery/MassOLIVER mapping. It was also noted that the herbicide project itself is exempt from permitting in the Wetlands Protection Act.

Natario explained the details of the spraying project, noting that the spraying is very targeted with only about a 6-inch application area restricted to areas along the I-91 with guardrail not within designated “No Spray Zones” by MDAR and this presented resource area boundary determination. Spraying will occur 1-2 times per year at most and the Commission as other City departments/committees will be notified one month before spraying begins.

Agent Tragert will notify the Commission when that notification is received and any other updates about the future execution of this project.



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Motion made by John Griffin to issue a Positive Determination Type 2 confirming the Bordering Vegetated Wetlands area boundaries as present.

Motion seconded by Erika LaForme.

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

6:37 PM Enforcement Updates & Other Business

- Enforcement updates
 - 21 Spring Terrace (Map 65-9) – unauthorized construction within Riverfront Area.
 - No updates, awaiting review of plantings in the spring.
 - 286 Plain Road (Map R34-10) – unauthorized construction within Riverfront Area.
 - No updates.
 - 637 Colrain Road (Map R35-7) – unauthorized filling of wetlands.
 - No updates.
 - Old Wedgewood Gardens - Kimball Drive (Map 48-24) – unauthorized fill of Riverfront Area.
 - No updates.
 - 8 Conway Drive (Map 49-24) – unauthorized fill of Riverfront Area.
 - No updates.
- 136 Lovers Lane Tree Removal – Agent Tragert present the proposed trees to be removed and images from the 2/2/2021 site visit. Previous Administrative Approval and Determination of Applicability for two other tree removal projects were also reviewed and it was determined that an Administrative Approval was appropriate in this instance. It was determined that conditions for removal would include:
 - Only the seven (7) trees identified as hazards to the single-family home by ArborClimb, Inc. in the estimate on record dated March 25, 2019 shall be cut. Any other trees identified as potential hazards shall seek separate approval from the Conservation Commission if located within any jurisdictional wetland resource areas.
 - All seven (7) identified trees shall be cut so that at least 15ft in height remains so that the remaining elongated stumps may function as snag-type wildlife habitat.
 - All work shall be completed while the ground is sufficiently stable to prevent ground disturbance to resource areas.
 - Reasonable precautionary measures (such as matting etc.) shall be taken to protect the area from ground disturbance during the work and for access to the work area.
 - At no point shall equipment enter the intermittent stream and any refueling of equipment must be completed at least 100ft from the intermittent stream.
 - Reasonable measures (such as re-seeding with a native plant mix, etc.) to re-stabilize the work area shall be taken if necessary once the work is completed.



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Motion made by Rachel Lindsay to issue an Administrative Approval with conditions as discussed for the removal of seven (7) trees at 136 Lovers Lane.

Motion seconded by Fletcher Harrington.

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

- Invasive Species Volunteer Group Proposition – Agent Tragert shared a proposal to treat invasive species within Commission managed City owned properties. The Commission explained that a formal proposal would be needed and possible permitting is any work involves disturbance within wetlands resource areas.
- Highland Park Vernal Pool Discussion – Agent Tragert shared that concerns had been raised by a resident about possible water level decreases due to an old outlet pipe recently being cleared. Based on historical data around the certified pool, it is not possible to determine at this time whether adjustments to the pipe would be advisable.
- Request for CPA Committee Members – Agent Tragert reviewed information about the goals of a CPA Committee and the proposed structure of the meetings. Travis Drury indicated an interest in taking on being the Commission's representative member and indicated that he will make a decision in the coming days.
- Greenfield MVP Workshop – Agent Tragert shared information on the workshop date and purpose.

7:18 PM Project Monitoring & Site Visit Scheduling

- List of active Order of Conditions and updates.
 - 195 Mill Brook Road – Solar Project.
 - No updates.
 - 739 Bernardston Road – Center School.
 - No updates.
 - 125 Mohawk Trail – Hotel Construction.
 - No updates.
 - 60 James Street – Single-family home.
 - No updates.
 - Wisdom Way/River Street/Mill Street Intersection (DEP #: 168-0338, Exp. 10/27/2023) – Roadway improvements.
 - No updates.
 - **Set Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 23rd, 2021**
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Meeting Adjourned at 8:21 PM

Motion made by John Griffin to adjourn at 8:21 PM

Motion seconded by Erika LaForme

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries



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Respectfully Submitted,

Cassie Tragert,
Conservation Agent

John Griffin,
Chair